THE WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

PTA Bulletin

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IS WAKEFIELD HIGH TOO LARGE?

REGULAR PTA MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 26 1956

Is Wakefield High School too large a school for the best educational results? The March membership meeting program will be devoted to a debate by the Wakefield senior debate team on the subject:

Resolved: that Wakefield High School is too large an institution for the best educational results

The discussion will center around the advantages in equipment, plant and special services available to a large school as against the difficulties encountered in giving students individual attention and a sense of "belonging" in a school of Wakefield's size.

This subject has been of considerable interest to parents of Wakefield students, and the program will afford an opportunity to review opinions on this issue as well as to hear the outstanding debate team of Wakefield

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Recognizing that the members were not satisfied at the last meeting of the PTA in January with the proposed amendment on dues the Board introduced, members of the Executive Board revised the amendment to be voted in accordance with the wishes of members. The revised amendment on which the membership will vote on March 26 reads as follows:

That the PTA of Wakefield High School continue its present system of dues, but raise the dues of families to $1 50 for the two memberships and to $1 00 for single memberships.

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"THE MISER" COMES ON MARCH 22 and 23

The Annual Spring production of the Wakefield High School will be at the Auditorium on March 22 and 23 at 8:00 P.M This year the students are presenting "The Miser," a comedy in three acts by Moliere. It will be under the direction of Mr. R. B. Stevens. Admission prices are $.40 for students and $1.00 for adults This promises to be an evening of delightful entertainment. Plan to come and bring the family.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE A SUCCESS

The Membership Committee wishes to thank the parents who responded to the membership canvass conducted through February. In five weeks 110 family and 10 single members joined our PTA. This number brings our total membership to 2000. which represents 1,178 students enrolled, or 48.8% of the student body. Remember the goal was 60%!. Those who have not yet joined can easily do so by filling out the applica - tion and note of instructions sent out last January. Return it with the correct dues to your child's homeroom teacher We can still reach that goal of 60%.

The latest statistics on membership at class level are:

Miss Rothman's 7-3 leading at 73%.
Miss Morris' 8-6 and Mrs Lerch's 8-4 tied at 72%. (now Mrs. Hanchett)
Miss Davidson's 9-2 leading at 77%.
Mrs. M L. Miller's 10-12 and Mrs. Gibbs' 11-4 are tied at 66%.
Mr. Johnson's 12-14 is third at 50%.

With a little effort, one of these classes could be first with 100% Which will it be?

At grade level, the 7th grade continues to lead at 58.1% membership Other grades are as follows:

8th grade at 53.4%.
9th grade at 55.3%.
10th grade at 51.1%.
11th grade at 41.8%.
12th grade at 45.2%.

If any member has not received his membership card and the Handbook, please call Mrs. W. A. Salisbury at JA 8-7350 and they will be sent within a few days.

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The Committee for Exceptional Children held a meeting at Wakefield on Tuesday March 6th. Miss Lambert, Acting Coordinator of Special Education spoke on the county setup, and Mr. Neal, a special education teacher at Wakefield reported on special education at the School.

Roundtable discussion and a question period followed in an effort to reach more understanding of the problems of the exceptional child, what the school is doing and can do for these students Among the exceptional students are those physically handicapped, partially-sighted, deaf, mentally retarded, exceptional mental ability, reading or other academic difficulties and others.

TELL-A-TALE THEATRE

Tell-A-Tale Theatre's spring production, "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp " by James Harris, will be presented in eight performances in only two locations on two Fridays and Saturdays in April. The schedule is as follows:

Date	Time	School
Friday, April 20	3:40 P.M.	Washington - Lee
Friday, April 20	7:30 P.M.	Washington - Lee

Saturday, April 21	10:00 A.M.	Washington - Lee
Saturday, April 21	2:00 P.M.	Washington - Lee
Friday, April 27	3:40 P.M.	Wakefield
Friday, April 27	7:30 P.M.	Wakefield
Saturday, April 28	10:00 A.M.	Wakefield
Saturday, April 28	2:00 P.M.	Wakefield

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THE PROBLEM OF HOMEWORK

The following report is a follow-up of the PTA Grade Curriculum Committee on questions raised earlier in the year.

The question of homework was raised in every group at the grade level meetings Too much - not enough - how much should parents help - should they help? This flier attempts to answer some of the general questions on the subject of homework. It must be remembered, however, that the child is an individual. Answers to questions may have to be tailored to fit particular needs Many things must be considered; the gregariousness of the family, the space available, the age of the child, to mention a few. He won't go to his room to study? Be patient; next year he may not be coaxed out of it. But parents do have a responsibility to encourage their children in the successful completion of their homework.

1. What is the real purpose of homework?
   a. To help develop good study habits.
   b. Enrichment of the regular program. It permits the student to delve deeper into materials than class time permits. Homework permits children to explore more widely than classtime permits
   c. To provide the drill necessary to fix instruction.

2. How should parents help a child with homework?
   a. Provide a place, free of distractions if possible. well lighted
   b. Start the student on his task if necessary
   c. When difficulty arises attempt by questions and suggestions to help him think through his problem.
   d. At the point when the parent feels he is doing more than the child the child should be encouraged to write his questions to present to the teacher

3. Should close supervision be necessary through high school?
   Definitely not. The answers to the previous questions are most important in relation to the child just beginning homework. There should be a gradual relaxing of supervision, help in scheduling of time etc. It must be remembered that mothers do not accompany Junior to college.

4. How does the school assist the student in approaching home study independently?
   This is started in junior high in the general education classes Instructions in use of reference materials, note taking, etc. are given. Long term research projects are undertaken several times a year. These are in reality instruction in learning how to study. In high school this is carried on in the English classes where a unit on "How to Study" is included in the year's program.

5. Are there study periods at the junior high level?
   No, but in most classes some portion of the period is set aside for supervised study. This gets less and less as the student progresses and in senior high study halls may do reference work in the library after school until 4 P.M.

SCHOOL CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

March 29, 30, April 2	Spring Vacation		
April 4	7th Grade Parent Meeting	Auditorium	8 P.M.
April 6	J.R.C. Dance	Girls Gym	8-10:30 P.M.
April 10	Baseball Game	Here	3:00
April 13	Baseball Game	Here	3:00
April 14	Tri Hi Y Dance	Girls Gym	8-11 P.M.
April 20	J.R.C.	Girls Gym	8 10:30
April 20-24	Science Fair	Boys Gym	9-4
April 24	Baseball Game	Here	3:00
April 26	Junior High Band Concert	Auditorium	8 P.M.
April 27	Ninth Grade Party	Girls Gym	8 10:30
May 1	Baseball Game	Here	3:00
May 1	10th & 11th Grade Parents	Auditorium	8 P.M.
May 3	Orchestra Concert (Sr.High)	Auditorium	8 P.M.
May 4	Student Govt Dance (Jr High)	Girls Gym	8 11 P.M.
May 5	Student Govt Dance (Sr.High)	Girls Gym	8-11 P.M.
May 12	Junior Prom	Girls Gym	8 11 P.M.
May 15	Baseball Game	Here	3:00
May 18	J.R.C. Dance	Girls Gym	8-10:30 P.M.
May 17	Choral Music Festival	Auditorium	8 P.M.
May 25	Tenth Grade Dance	Girls Gym	8-11 P.M.
May 28	P.T.A.	Auditorium	8 P.M.
June 2	Athletic Banquet	Cafeteria	6:30
June 10	Baccalaureate	Auditorium	
June 11	Graduation	Boys Gym	8 P.M.
June 12	Last Day for Pupils		
June 13	Last Day for Teachers		